IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A compound according to Formula I:

wherein:

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

X₂ and X₄ are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 NHR_6 , NHR_6

 R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 and R_5 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R₇ and R₈ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl.

2. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein:

X₁ is O;

X₂ is C;

X₃ is NH

X₄ is N and

R₂, R₃ and R₄ are each H.

3. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein A is

and R₆ is alkyl.

4. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein A is

$$R_7$$

and R₇ and R₈ are each H.

- 5. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein R_1 is an amino group.
- 6. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein R_1 is a nitro group.
- 7. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:

O₂N N NH

9. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:

- 11. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 1, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 12. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 11, wherein the composition is formulated for intravenous administration.
- 13. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 11, wherein the composition is formulated for oral administration.
 - 14. (Original) A compound according to Formula II:

$$R_1$$
 X_2
 X_3
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_4
 X_5
 X_4
 X_5
 X_5
 X_5
 X_6
 X_7
 X_8
 X_8
 X_8

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

X₂ and X₄ are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 NHR_6
 NHR_6

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R₇ and R₈ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl.

- 15. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 14, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 16. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 15, wherein the composition is formulated for intravenous administration.
- 17. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 15, wherein the composition is formulated for oral administration.
 - 18. (Original) A compound according to Formula III:

$$R_4$$
 X_2
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_4
 X_4
 X_5
 X_4
 X_5

wherein:

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

 X_2 and X_4 are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_8

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halo, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R₇ and R₈ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl.

- 19. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 18, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 20. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 19, wherein the composition is formulated for intravenous administration.
- 21. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 19, wherein the composition is formulated for oral administration.
 - 22. (Original) A compound according to Formula IV:

$$R_1$$
 X_2
 X_1
 X_3
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_3

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

X₂ and X₄ are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 , NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_8 , and NHR_8 ;

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R₇ and R₈ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl.

- 23. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 22, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 24. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 23, wherein the composition is formulated for intravenous administration.
- 25. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 23, wherein the composition is formulated for oral administration.
 - 26. (Original) A compound according to Formula V:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_2 \\
X_1 \\
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_3 \\
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
\end{array}$$

 X_1 is independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

X₂ is CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$\begin{array}{c} \stackrel{\text{NH}}{\longrightarrow} \\ \stackrel{\text{NHR}_6}{\longrightarrow} \\ \stackrel{$$

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R₇ and R₈ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl.

27. (Original) A compound according to Claim 26, wherein:

X₁ is O;

X₂ is C; and

R₂ and R₃ are each H.

28. (Original) A compound according to Claim 26, wherein A is

$$N \longrightarrow R_8$$

and R₇ and R₈ are each H.

- 29. (Original) A compound according to Claim 26, wherein R₁ is alkoxy.
- 30. (Original) A compound according to Claim 26, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:

- 31. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 30, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 32. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 31, wherein the composition is formulated for intravenous administration.
- 33. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 31, wherein the composition is formulated for oral administration.
 - 34. (Original) A compound according to Formula VI:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_1 & R_2 \\
\hline
X_1 & X_2 \\
\hline
X_1 & A
\end{array}$$
(VI)

X₁ is selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

X₂ is CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 NHR_6 , NHR_6

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R₇ and R₈ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl.

- 35. (Original) The compound according to Claim 34, wherein X_1 is O and X_2 is C.
- 36. (Original) The compound according to Claim 34, wherein X_1 is NH and X_2 is C.
- 37. (Original) The compound according to Claim 34, wherein X_1 is S and X_2 is C.
- 38. (Original) The compound according to Claim 34, wherein X_1 is S and X_2 is N.
- 39. (Original) The compound according to Claim 34, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

40. The compound according to Claim 34, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

41. (Original) The compound according to Claim 34, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

42. (Original) The compound according to Claim 34, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

 H_2N H_2N H_3N H_4N H_4N

44. (Original) The compound according to Claim 34, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

$$\begin{array}{c|c} CF_3 & CF_3 \\ NH & NH_2 \\ H & H \end{array}$$

45. (Original) The compound according to Claim 34, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

$$\begin{array}{c|c} CH_3 & CH_3 \\ NH & NH_2 \\ H_2N & H & NH_2 \\ \end{array}$$

48. (Original) The compound according to Claim 34, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

49. (Original) The compound according to Claim 34, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

$$\begin{array}{c|c} CH_3 & CH_3 \\ NH & NH_2 \\ H_2N & H & NH_2 \\ \end{array}$$

50. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 34, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

- 51. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 50, wherein the composition is formulated for intravenous administration.
- 52. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 50, wherein the composition is formulated for oral administration.
- 53. (Original) A method of treating bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the subject a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula I and Formula II:

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

 X_2 and X_4 are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_8

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

 R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection.

- 54. (Original) The method according to Claim 53, wherein the compound is a compound of Formula I.
- 55. (Original) The method according to Claim 53, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:

$$H_2N$$
 N
 N
 N

- 56. (Original) The method according to Claim 53, wherein the subject is a cow.
- 57. (Original) The method according to Claim 53, wherein the subject is an embryo.
- 58. (Original) The method according to Claim 53, wherein the compound is administered intravenously.
- 59. (Original) The method according to Claim 53, wherein the compound is administered orally.
- 60. (Original) A method of treating bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the subject a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula III and Formula IV:

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

X₂ and X₄ are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 , NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_8 , and NHR_8 , NHR

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

 R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection.

61. (Original) A method of treating bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the subject a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula V and Formula VI:

wherein:

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

X₂ and X₄ are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

 R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 and R_5 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

 R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection.

- 62. (Original) The method according to Claim 61, wherein the subject is a cow.
- 63. (Original) The method according to Claim 61, wherein the subject is an embryo.

- 64. (Original) The method according to Claim 61, wherein the compound is administered intravenously.
- 65. (Original) The method according to Claim 61, wherein the compound is administered orally.
- 66. (Original) The method according to Claim 61, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & NH \\ NH_2 \\ NH_2 \\ \end{array}$$

70. (Original) The method according to Claim 61, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

$$H_2N$$
 H_2N
 H_3N
 H_4N
 H_4N
 H_5N
 H_5N

73. (Original) The method according to Claim 61, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

74. (Original) The method according to Claim 61, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

$$\begin{array}{c|c} CI & CI \\ NH & NH_2 \\ H & H \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} CH_3 & CH_3 \\ NH & NH_2 \\ H_2N & H & NH_2 \\ \end{array}$$

77. (Original) The method according to Claim 61, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

78. (Original) A method of treating hepatitis C infection in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the subject a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula I and Formula II:

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

X₂ and X₄ are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_8

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

 R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the hepatitis C infection.

- 79. (Original) The method according to Claim 78, wherein the compound is a compound of Formula I.
- 80. (Original) The method according to Claim 78, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:

81. (Original) The method according to Claim 78, wherein the subject is a human.

- 82. (Original) The method according to Claim 78, wherein the compound is administered intravenously.
- 83. (Original) The method according to Claim 78, wherein the compound is administered orally.
- 84. (Original) A method of treating hepatitis C infection in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the subject a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula III and Formula IV:

$$R_1$$
 X_2
 X_3
 X_4
 X_3
 X_4
 X_5
 X_4
 X_5
 X_4
 X_5
 X_5
 X_4
 X_5
 X_5
 X_5
 X_6
 X_7
 X_8

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

X₂ and X₄ are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 NHR_6 , NH NHR_6 NHR_8 , and N N N

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R₇ and R₈ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the hepatitis C infection.

85. (Original) A method of treating hepatitis C infection in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the subject a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula V and Formula VI:

wherein:

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

X₂ and X₄ are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 , NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_8 , and NHR_8 , NHR_8 , NHR_8 , NHR_8

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

 R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the hepatitis C infection.

- 86. (Original) The method according to Claim 85, wherein the subject is a human.
- 87. (Original) The method according to Claim 85, wherein the compound is administered intravenously.
- 88. (Original) The method according to Claim 85, wherein the compound is administered orally.
- 89. (Original) The method according to Claim 85, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\ & & & \\ & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ & & \\ &$$

92. (Original) The method according to Claim 85, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

93. (Original) The method according to Claim 85, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

H₂N NH O

95. (Original) The method according to Claim 85, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

96. (Original) The method according to Claim 85, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

99. (Original) The method according to Claim 85, wherein the compound is represented by the formula

$$\begin{array}{c|c} OCH_3 & OCH_3 \\ \hline NH & NH_2 \\ \hline H_2N & H & NH_2 \\ \end{array}$$

101. (Original) A method of treating a member of the *Flaviviridae* family of viruses in a subject in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the subject a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula I and Formula II:

wherein:

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

X₂ and X₄ are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 NHR_6 , NHR_6

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, halide, alkylhalide, amidine, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

 R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection.

102. (Original) The method according to Claim 101, wherein the compound is a compound of Formula II.

104. (Original) The method according to Claim 101, wherein the compound is represented by the formula:

105. (Original) The method according to Claim 101, wherein the compound is administered intravenously.

- 106. (Original) The method according to Claim 101, wherein the compound is administered orally.
- 107. (New) A method of treating a culture for bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection, comprising administering to the culture a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula (I)-Formula (VI):

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

 X_2 and X_4 are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_8

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, amidine, halide, alkylhalide, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

 R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the BVDV infection.

- 108. (New) The method of Claim 107, wherein the culture is selected from one of a cell culture and a tissue culture.
- 109. (New) A method of treating an embryo for bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) infection, comprising administering to the embryo a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula (I)-Formula (VI):

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

 X_2 and X_4 are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_8

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, amidine, halide, alkylhalide, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R₇ and R₈ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the BVDV infection.

- 110. (New) The method of Claim 109, wherein the embryo comprises an *in vitro*-produced embryo.
- 111. (New) A method of treating bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) in a culture medium surrounding an *in vitro*-produced embryo, comprising administering to the culture medium a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula (I)-Formula (VI):

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

 X_2 and X_4 are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_6 , NHR_8

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, amidine, halide, alkylhalide, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

 R_7 and R_8 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the BVDV.

- 112. (New) A method of preparing a biological specimen or medium for use in an *in vitro* fertilization procedure, the method comprising:
 - (a) providing the biological specimen or medium; and
- (b) administering to the biological specimen or medium a compound selected from the group consisting of Formula (I)-Formula (VI):

 X_1 and X_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of O, S and NR₉, wherein R₉ is H or alkyl;

 X_2 and X_4 are each independently CH or N;

A is selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, aryl,

$$NH$$
 NHR_6 NHR_6 NHR_6 NHR_8 NHR_8 NHR_8 NHR_8 NHR_8

R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄ and R₅ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, alkyl, alkoxy, amidine, halide, alkylhalide, nitro and amino groups;

R₆ is H, alkyl or aryl; and

R₇ and R₈ are each independently selected from the group consisting of H and alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in an amount sufficient to treat the biological specimen or medium for a BVDV infection.

113. (New) The method of Claim 112, wherein the biological specimen or medium comprises a gamete, a serum, a somatic cell, an oocyte, a cumulus oocyte complex (COC), an embryo, a culture medium surrounding an embryo, and combinations thereof.